

Western Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (WRTAC)

October 14, 2005

St. James Healthcare, Butte, MT

Trauma Coordinator / Registrar Meeting

Present: Hope Ewoniuk, Carolyn Bellamah, Alexis Brandenburg, Robin Foley, Meg Bryan, Shelley Smith Otoupalik, Larry Peterman, Leah Emerson, Linda Sund, John Bleicher, Bobbi Perkins

Review of State System Conference and Rocky Mountain Rural Trauma Symposium – Comments from the Rocky Mountain Rural Trauma Symposium were handed out. Overall both conferences were very good. Ideas for topics and speakers for next year:

- Trauma in smaller facilities
- Transporting patients to higher level of care – review of care and what needs to be done
- Disaster preparedness – maybe someone from New Orleans can give a perspective
- Make sure to repeat sessions
- More practical skills for nurses on equipment and patient care, hands on.

Education / Finance Subcommittee Chair Position – John Bleicher has been the chair for the education / finance subcommittee for several years and would like to offer the position to anyone else interested. Derek Starker was volunteered (since he was not at the meeting to defend himself).

Recommendation: John will contact Derek to see if he is interested in the position.

Data and Gathering Reports – State trauma registry reports were run and distributed to the group.

State of the State – The group discussed the direction the WRTAC should be heading for the next year. Committee members discussed the following ideas for the WRTAC and Trauma Coordinator meeting:

- Chair and Secretary role to include advocating for State funding
- Education / QI component essential
- Trauma Coordinator meeting – provide education that will benefit everyone

Recommendation: Shelley Smith Otoupalik will present an educational piece on Heparin Induced Thrombocytopenia.

WRTAC Meeting

Friday, Oct. 14th, 2005
Hosted by St. James Healthcare, Butte, MT

CALL TO ORDER

The WRTAC meeting was called to order at 11:50am by Dr. Richard Gould, Chair. Attendance was noted by Dr. Gould and the facilities with the most attendance were presented with a check for \$100 each donated by Dr. Gould's surgical practice. Thank you Dr. Gould!

Review of Minutes

The minutes from July 2005 were reviewed and accepted as written.

Attendance

Please see attendance roster.

NEW BUSINESS

Disaster Preparedness

Dr. Stu Reynolds presented Fundamentals of Medical Planning to increase understanding and awareness of medical planning and catastrophic response. Planning involves many agencies to work together, such as first responders, hospitals and providers, public health specialists, disaster response specialists, and emergency management officials. The medical community often has the greatest burden, is part of the critical infrastructure, and important in preparing for complex emergencies. For more information, contact Stu Reynolds, MD at stuinmt@mtintouch.net

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Medical Director Report

Greg Moore, MD, reported the following:

- modules have been updated. Duonebs have been added
- paramedic modules – by the end of the year the curriculum will be completed
- Paramedic course completed
- Updated protocols – manuals will be available on the Board of Medical Examiners website.
- A list serve for MT Medical Directors will be available to answer questions, share resources and communicate with one another.
- EMS licensure information updated
- EMS data – selected services are trialing electronic field recording that can be downloaded into the computer.

Education and Finance Report

There were two PHTLS courses held the last several months. One in Thompson Falls, and one in Plains. Both courses were completely full. The balance of the education account is \$10,173.00. There are several requests for money:

- STN in Hamilton in November - \$500 to the hospital to support the course
- PHTLS in Missoula for Missoula, Seeley Lake, CMC, Florence providers - \$500
- Preliminary request to allocate money to set up a communication list serve with Dr. Dunn for Behavioral Interventions. This will be an on-going educational tool - \$3000

Conclusion: All educational requests were approved. The list serve request will be referred to the next meeting.

Money that is awarded to hospitals from the educational grant is to be used at the hospitals discretion. If the hospital does not use all the money for the STN course, the remainder of the money can be used for other educational purposes at the hospital.

EMS Administrative Money 1999

There was money remaining from the \$500 grant to the EMS Subcommittee in 1999. A request was made to allow Barrett Memorial Hospital to use the remainder of the money for education.

Conclusion: The committee approved this request.

Injury Prevention Report

The State received a large grant for suicide prevention. There are Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Trainings available to all communities in Montana.

Recommendation: A resource list for each community suicide prevention group will be developed for the WRTAC by the next meeting.

The Washington 4-H developed a Ride Smart video for promoting helmet use when riding horses.

Recommendation: The WRTAC will purchase 15 videos (one for each hospital).

CASE REVIEW

Take home points from the case reviews include:

1. Helmets prevent head injuries
2. Small bowel injuries are like snakes in the grass; hard to diagnose initially. Need to have a high index of suspicion and watch closely.

STATE REPORT

Thom will be leaving as the State Injury Prevention Coordinator. Kim will be back to work next week to resume hospital designation and Jenny Nemec will be starting soon to assist with Collector support, and will be the RTAC liaison. The EMS System Manager position will be filled soon.

Thom updated the group that elderly fall rates have decreased over the last several years, but in-facility falls and suicide rate continue to be high.

The committee wished Thom good luck in his next job and thanked him for a job well done.

Area Trauma Plan Updates:

Butte

Missoula

Community Medical Center announced that they passed the ACS Level III Trauma Verification visit.

Flathead

No report.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm. The committee thanked Dr. Gould and Robin at St. James Hospital for hosting the meeting and providing lunch and beverages.

The next meeting will take place on Friday, January 13th, 2006 at Community Medical Center in Missoula.

Please mark your calendar that the meeting in April is scheduled for Friday, April 21, 2006 at SPH.